

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: KISSINGER SHUTTLE

AFTER A HIATUS OF SEVERAL DAYS, FRONT PAGE COMMENT ON THE KISSINGER SHUTTLE INTO SOUTHERN AFRICA HAS APPEARED IN THE SEPTEMBER 22 EDITION OF SENEGAL'S DAILY, "LE SOLEIL," OVER THE SIGNATURE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS WRITER MOCTAR KEBE.

KEBE, EVER FAITHFUL TO HIS HARD-LINE ANTI-APARTHEID BELIEF, DENIGRATES THE OUTCOME OF THE MISSION BY DENOUNCING ONE OF ITS PRINCIPALS, JOHN VORSTER: "...ONE SERIOUS APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM SHOULD HAVE CONSISTED OF CONSIDERING PRIME MINISTER JOHN VORSTER AS THE ONE MOST RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EXPLOSIVE AND INADMISSIBLE SITUATION WHICH PREVAILS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. BUT, INSTEAD OF BEING AT THE FOREFRONT OF THOSE ACCUSED, VORSTER IS PRESENTED AS A PEACEFUL MAN, CHARGED WITH MAKING IAN SMITH AND THE WHITE COLONISTS OF NAMIBIA SEE REASON. FACED WITH THE GLOBAL STRATEGY THAT AFRICA

HAS ADOPTED FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE REGION, (IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN FORGOTTEN THAT) THE MINORITY WHITE
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REGIMES ARE

EFFECTED INFANT IN DEFENSE OF THEIR EXHORBITANT
INTERESTS IN THE SAME AREA. THEREFORE, WITHOUT PREJUDGING
WHAT THE NEAR FUTURE HOLDS FOR THIS QUESTION, WE CAN STATE THAT
THE PROBLEM, IN ANY CASE, WAS JUGGLED FROM THE BEGINNING
FOR...POLITICAL, STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC REASONS. FURTHERMORE,
IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT THE ENTIRE MISSION OF DR. KISSINGER LED
PRACTICALLY TO IAN SMITH'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLE OF
MAJORITY RULE, WITHOUT ONE WORD ABOUT THE MARTYRS OF SOWETO AND
NAMIBIAHOTKV

WITH THAT BRIEF MENTION OF WHAT OTHERS SEE AS POSITIVE MOVEMENT
TOWARDS MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA, KEBE CONTINUES HIS ATTACK:
"...IT IS NOT SUPERFLUOUS TO NOTE THAT THE HUMANITARIAN FEELINGS
OF AMERICAN DIPLOMACY (WILL) BE EXPRESSED ONLY AT THAT PRECISE
MOMENT EN TPWXFASCIDL WHITE REGIMES ARE THROWN INTO THE OCEAN,
THANKS TO THE DETERMINED ACTIONS OF THE AFRICAN LIBERATION CJ
MOVEMENTS. WITHOUT GOING SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT 'KISSINGER CAME
TOO LATE' WE ARE MORE OR
LESS TEMPTED TO SAY THAT HIS HANDS
ARE STILL RATHER EMPTY."

KEBE ADVISES CAUTION REGARDING THE RHODESIAN QUESTION "WHERE
PROGRESS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN REALIZED," ..."ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT
NYERERE HAS (PROFESSED) A CERTAIN OPTIMISM AFTER HIS LAST
MEETING WITH KISSINGER, ...LONDON...PREFERS THE TRADITIONAL
'WAIT AND SEE' (ATTITUDE)...(SINCE) THE BRITISH GOVERNMENTS,
WHETHER CONSERVATIVE OR LABOR, KNOW IAN SMITH WELL ENOUGH NOT
TO WAGER TOO MUCH ON HIS PROMISES..."

KEBE'S DISMAL CRITIQUE OF THE KISSINGER SHUTTLE WAS NOT SHARED
BY THE OTHER TWO GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED MEDIA. SENEGAL'S RADIO
AND TELEVISION NEWS BROADCASTS HAILED NYERERE'S "OPTIMISM"
AS INDICATIVE OF A REAL BREAKTHROUGH FOR AT LEAST ONE PROBLEM
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.
AGGREY

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED USDEL SECRETARY.

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